(v) accidents, alarm-chain-pulling and equipment failures.

All efforts including intensive chasing and round the clock monitoring are being made to improve the punctuality of this train.

Frequency of Guwahati Rajdhani Express

196. SHRI BHADRESWAR GOHAIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the weekly Guwahati Rajdhani Express is not at all sufficient for travelling public of the entire North-East region;

(b) whether Government are contemplating to increase its frequency at least to thrice a week in the near future; and

(c) what are the reasons for stopping Guwahati Rajdhani Express at Patna while two other Rajdhani Expresses have already stoppage at Patna?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Some passengers remain on the waiting list of Guwahati Rajdhani Express.

(b) The proposal to increase the frequency of New Delhi-Guwahati Rajdhani Express during 1995-96 is being examined and action as found feasible and justified will be taken.

(c) For the convenience of the passengers travelling between Patna and N.E States.

Grant of HRA & CCA to railway employees

197. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board had issued order in their memo. No. E (P&A)II/95/MEA/CCA/5 dated 31st May, 1994 restoring grant of HRA and CCA as of B-I Class City as special case for railway employees working in Kamptee, Nagpur;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the General Manager, Khidirpore, Calcutta has not forwarded the Railway Board Memo, DRM, SER, Nagpur and the Kamptee Railway employees has not received the benefit of railway board orders; and

(c) the reasons for delay in forwarding the Railway Board Memo to DRM, SER, Nagpur by GM, SER, Khidirpore, Calcutta and action taken to implement the orders?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) Yes, Sir. Railway Board vide letter No. E(P&A)II/94/HRA/CCA/5 dated 31st May, 1994 have allowed, as a special case, that in respect of those railway employees who are posted in that part of Kamptee (UA) which was earlier part of Nagpur (UA), HRA/CCA will continue to be applicable at the same rates (i.e. 'B-I' class rates).

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Introduction of non-stop rain between Howrah and Bombay

198. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Miniser of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps are being taken to introduce non-stop trains between Howrah and Bombay, Howrah and New Delhi and Bombay and New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons for the delay to introduce such trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF) : (a) to (c). No, Sir. Introduction of non-stop trains is operationally not feasible as some stoppage (s) will have to be provided for operational reasons like change of crew, watering, etc.